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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re United States National Stage of)
International Patent Application No. PCT/US01/25317) Group Art Unit
Applicants: Jens Erik SORENSEN et al.) Examiner:
Filing under 35 USC 371 - Herewith:)
For: MANAGEMENT OF IDEAS ACCUMULATED) Attorney Dkt. No. 52-162
IN A COMPUTER DATABASE)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter this amendment prior to calculating the filing fee and base the filing fee upon the claims remaining in the application upon entry of this amendment.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, between the title and the section entitled "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION", insert the following additional section:

REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of both provisional application No. 60/224,944 filed August 11, 2000, and provisional application No. 60/227,687 filed August 24, 2000.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel Claims 4-31, 33, 34, 36-38, 49-66, 68 and 70-76.

Amend Claims 32, 35, 39-48 and 67 to read as follow:

32. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (e) systematically entering into said database all ideas contributed for entry into
said database.

35. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (e) systematically entering into said database ideas contributed for entry into said
database without requiring any contributor of said ideas to have subject matter expertise
4 as a prerequisite for entry of said contributions.

39. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (e) requiring persons to enter into a membership as a prerequisite for viewing a
portion of said database containing at least some of said accumulated ideas.

40. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (e) requiring contributors of ideas for prospective entry into said database to enter
into a membership as a prerequisite for contributing ideas for entry into said database.

41. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (e) facilitating preparation and/or filing of patent applications for at least some
inventions derived at least in part from said accumulated ideas.

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42. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (e) auctioning at least some right under the patent rights to at least some inventions derived at least in part from said accumulated ideas.

43. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (e) recording a time of receipt of each idea contributed for entry into said database.

44. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (e) recording a time of publication in said database of each accumulated idea.

45. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (e) recording a time of first public viewing from said database of each accumulated idea.

46. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (d) providing contingent contractual rights to at least some inventions derived at least in part from said accumulated ideas.

47. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (d) enabling ideas contributed to said database to be integrated within said database to thereby facilitate derivation of inventions from said integrated ideas.

48. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- 2 (c) systematically establishing contractual obligations by contributors of said ideas to permit immediate public disclosure of said ideas contributed by said contributors.

67. A method according to Claim 2, wherein each step is performed

- 2 systematically.

Add new Claims 77-78, as follow:

77. A method according to Claim 40, wherein each step is performed

- 2 systematically.

78. A method according to Claim 45, wherein each step is performed

- 2 systematically.

79. A method according to Claim 47, wherein each step is performed

- 2 systematically.

REMARKS

The specification is amended to refer to the two provisional applications, upon which the priority claim is based.

Claims 32, 35, 39-48 and 67 are amended so that they do not depend upon any of the claims that are canceled by this Preliminary Amendment and to thereby eliminate any multiple dependent claims from this application.

New Claims 77-79 are directed to the subject matter of original Claim 67 as dependent upon Claims 40, 45 and 47 as dependent upon Claim 2, respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated 10-25-01

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